



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
Fred Fox School of Music

Arizona Symphony Orchestra

UA Philharmonic Orchestra

Thomas Cockrell, Director of Orchestral Activities

## UA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

8/22

MUS 400P / MUS 500P

Syllabus Fall 2023

Dr. Thomas Cockrell, Director of Orchestral Activities

Instructor of record [Cockrell@arizona.edu](mailto:Cockrell@arizona.edu)

Studio: Room 153 (520) 621-7028 <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/6503218983>

Office hour: Tuesday 1:30-2:30 (in-person or Zoom) and by appointment

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	Conductors office hours by appointment	

*Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.*

*Students will sign a form affirming they have read and understand the content and terms of the syllabus.*

### INTRODUCTION

The UA Philharmonic Orchestra is a large conducted ensemble course designed to nurture performers, educators and those non majors and community members seeking to perform orchestral music at the collegiate level. Admission to the course and ensemble is by audition; only musicians who are prepared to commit practice time, energy, and focus to the ensemble will be admitted. In this course the student will experience new repertoire, improve musicianship, and learn ensemble skills in a collaborative setting. The goal of this organization is to achieve the highest degree possible of learning and performance. It is the responsibility of the conductors and the performers to be prepared for each rehearsal. It is only through rigorous personal and ensemble preparation that the goals can be accomplished. This course partially fulfills the ensemble requirement for degree programs within the Fred Fox School of Music.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course objectives and expected learning outcomes are accomplished over several semesters of consecutive enrollment after which the student will have mastered a variety of ensemble and music making skills leading to an ability to perform at an advanced collegiate level in the orchestral setting.

1. The student will learn how to listen and respond in an ensemble setting with regard to a number of musical issues such as balance, color, articulation, style, intonation, intensity, etc.
2. The student will gain a general knowledge of the orchestral repertoire and performed a balanced cross-section of that repertoire.
3. The student will gain experience, musical maturity and comfort in a live performance setting.
4. The student will develop critical listening skills by attentively observing and listening to performances by world-class orchestras and other artists.
5. The student will learn to apply advanced musical skills, collaborative experience, insight and creativity to performance in individual and ensemble contexts.
6. The student will learn skills particularly applicable to her/his instrument and section, namely strings, woodwind, brass or percussion.

### Methods for assessing the expected outcomes

- Evaluation of the student's preparation and mastery of materials and methods rehearsals, sectional meetings, and final performances.
- Individual playing demonstrations, if any, live or recorded, as requested by the conductors or instructor.
- Self-reflective tools and experiences and/or short written assignments, reviews, ruminations, if any.

### Assessment and grading

Students can expect to receive an A for excellence in rehearsal and performance and completion of assignments. More than infrequent absence and consistent participation will lower the grade. The course will be managed and some materials supplied via D2L.

### Performances Fall 2023 7:30 P.M. in Crowder Hall

- Saturday September 23 Mozart, one movement on joint concert with the Arizona Symphony as part of the annual High String Festival
- Friday October 13 Music of Mozart, Rossini and Britten
- Friday December 1 Repertoire TBD

Rehearsals Monday and Wednesday evenings, 7:30 sharp - 9:30 PM. Location: Room 232, School of Music. Dress rehearsals are the rehearsals previous to the concert. A required warm-up rehearsal begins at 6:00 before all concerts. Sectional rehearsals will be in other rooms in the FFSOM.

## Master schedule

Please refer to the course calendar for 2023-24 which is found in D2L. It reflects the most up-to-date semester schedule which is subject to minor changes made with adequate notice. Weekly rehearsal assignments and schedule will be sent via D2L Announcements only.

## Seating

Seating and part assignments are made on a concert-by-concert basis at the discretion of the instructor and conductors, sometimes in consultation with the studio faculty.

## COURSE MATERIALS

The following are required for every rehearsal:

- While most performance music will be printed library copies, PDF files will occasionally be uploaded to D2L for the student to print and they will become the property of the player.
- A pencil and eraser
- A metronome, tuner and personal recording equipment (cell phone or more elaborate) are the essential practice tools of a performer for efficient preparation and practice
- It is recommended that students download and use the BRIGHTSPACE PULSE app to track D2L announcements, calendar and more.

## PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

Required formal concert attire choices:

- Black tuxedo (short coat, not tails), white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, black socks, and black dress shoes; alternatively, ankle/floor length black, long-sleeved dress or skirt (elbow-length sleeve minimum)/ black formal dress pants/suit (no denim, casual leggings or yoga pants) with black long-sleeved or elbow-length blouse, black shoes. Avoid bare shoulders or midribs. Simple jewelry only. Open-toed shoes are acceptable with dark stockings.
- It is possible that alternative, simple attire will be explored over the course of the year. If so, this will be communicated in advance of a given performance.

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Students can expect the following grades according to these standards:

- A 100% attendance at all rehearsals and concerts, only excused absences and fewer than two excused absences, zero unexcused absences. Excellent preparation and mastery of performance materials
- B Less than 100% attendance, fewer than four excused absences, more than two unexcused absences and/or inadequate preparation, performance and contribution to the ensemble
- C Inconsistent attendance and/or inadequate preparation and contribution
- D Poor attendance, preparation and contribution
- E Pattern of poor attendance, preparation that was detrimental to the ensemble.

*Please read the attendance and lateness policy below carefully*

### Concentration, participation and distractions

The use of cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc. during rehearsal is a distraction to you, the conductor and your colleagues. They are to be turned off (not just silenced) and stowed away upon entering the rehearsal room. There is a zero tolerance policy on the use of devices during any rehearsal, at any time, for any reason unless sanctioned by the conductor (e.g., following PDF score on a tablet, etc.). Likewise, textbooks or other reading materials may not be used during rehearsals. Some of the most important learning that can take place during these rehearsals is your concentrating when not playing.

### Musical preparation

In order for the orchestra to function at its optimal level and maximize each student's experience, significant amounts of practice outside of rehearsal are necessary. Failure to prepare your music discourages other members of the ensemble. It is expected that students arrive at rehearsals well prepared. If you appear to be unprepared for rehearsal, or appear to be in need of additional help, the conductor may ask you for a private hearing.

After initial marking by the orchestral assistants and principals, the timely copying of bowings and changes are the responsibility of the players and section leaders. Students will be held to the standards of preparation, commitment and demeanor expected of a professional musician. Students not playing on a given piece in a scheduled rehearsal may choose to quietly exit the room and re-enter precisely at the scheduled rehearsal time for the next piece. Percussionists not playing on the final piece in rehearsal should return to assist in equipment storage.

### UA orchestral library and rental materials

Each member is assigned music and a folder or envelope. To preserve the orchestral library and expensive rental parts, **all music while in your possession must be kept in this folder/envelope.** Members are responsible for all music until it is collected *in the folder/envelope* at the final performance of each program. Charges for missing or damaged parts and folders will be the responsibility of the player. You will be assessed the full amount, plus postage & handling fee for each piece of music that is damaged or lost from your folder. Rental music parts could be as high as \$100.00 a part. Fees will be assessed for music that is lost or damaged due to excessive marking or mishandling. Please respect and care for these expensive orchestral materials. Pencil markings only; no pen. Occasionally, materials will be provided on D2L or supplied as a PDF which will become the property of the player.

## CLASS PROCEDURES

### Attendance, absence and lateness policies

Attendance is required at all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances listed in this syllabus or events posted as an addendum. Attendance is taken at the times noted in the schedule announced weekly. Unavoidable circumstances that result in any attendance issues (quarantine absence, tardy, early departure) require submission and approval. Students are required to document lateness or absence using the [UA Orchestra online attendance form](#), a link to which is also found in D2L and the [UArizona Orchestras webpage](#)

Courtesy requires that the conductors and orchestra manager be notified of all absences and foreseen lateness in advance. Only in this manner can an absence be considered excused. Should issues of health, motivation, family or other concerns arise, the instructor requests that the student reach out in advance when possible via email to the conductors. Follow up by submitting the online form.

If a student has a playing injury requiring rest from a rehearsal, or if a student has an illness that will make playing impossible but does not require bed rest or absence from classes generally, the student is required to attend rehearsal as usual. In such circumstances the student may sit either in the orchestra or to the side having their part (or a practice part) in their hands, following rehearsal carefully and marking all issues discussed during rehearsal as usual. In this circumstance, no other work is to be done during this time, and the electronic device policy (below) still fully applies.

Additional rehearsal absences will be approved in advanced by the conductors for significant family, educational and professional development opportunities (workshops, professional and graduate school auditions, etc.). Such events can be approved on occasion by Dr. Cockrell, with plenty of advance notice.

A gig will never qualify for an excused absence. Students should not to undertake contracts with outside performing organizations, gigs, other University obligations, commitments to fraternal organizations or private activities which might conflict with Arizona Philharmonic obligations as determined at the beginning of the school year and each semester. Absence may be excused for verified health reasons and participation in other FFSOM concerts. Excused absences are defined as illness, family emergency, or a university-sanctioned special event or activity (with prior approval). *Personal work-related absences, gigs, auditions, meetings, absences related to other classes, recitals, recital rehearsals, and recital previews are not excusable.*

- An unexcused absence from a performance or dress rehearsal will ordinarily result in a failing grade for the semester and/or dismissal from the ensemble.
- A tardy for a performance time will ordinarily reduce the overall grade by one letter.
- Excessive excused absences may also affect the final grade (see above).

#### CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR POLICY

To foster a positive learning environment, students and instructors have a shared responsibility. We want a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all of us feel comfortable with each other and where we can challenge ourselves to succeed. To that end, our focus is on the tasks at hand and not on extraneous activities (e.g., texting, chatting, reading a newspaper, making phone calls, web surfing, etc.).

Absences: The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable, <https://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy>. Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored (i.e., Dean's Excuses).

Classroom Behavior: "The aim of education is the intellectual, personal, social, and ethical development of the individual. The educational process is ideally conducted in an environment that encourages reasoned discourse, intellectual honesty, openness to constructive change and respect for the rights of all individuals. Self discipline and a respect for the rights of others in the university community are necessary for the fulfillment of such goals." From The Student Code of Conduct.

Threatening behavior is prohibited. "Threatening behavior" means any statement, communication, conduct, or gesture, including those in written form, directed toward any member of the University community that causes a reasonable apprehension of physical harm to a person or property. A student can be guilty of threatening behavior even if the person who is the object of the threat does not observe or receive it, so long as a reasonable person would interpret the maker's statement, communication, conduct, or gesture as a serious expression of intent to physically harm.

The University of Arizona defines disruptive behavior as conduct that materially and substantially interferes with or obstructs the teaching or learning process in the context of a classroom or educational setting. Per UA Policy: Intoxication falls under the Student Code of Conduct. Anytime a student is disruptive, the instructor has the option to call UAPD to remove the student. If alcohol related, UAPD will determine if they need to transport the student to the hospital for evaluation or have the student dropped off at their residence. Either way, UAPD will submit a report to the Dean of Students.

Any disruptive talking or other disruptive actions will result in a reduction of grade and, if excessive, removal from this class or performances. Disruptive actions include, but are not limited to, parts that are not prepared and/or engaging in activities that reduce rehearsal/performance effectiveness, visual or aural distractions, unruly behavior, or disrespectful behavior.

Accessibility and Accommodations: At the University of Arizona we strive to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please contact the Disability Resource Center (520-621-3268, <https://drc.arizona.edu/>) to establish reasonable accommodations. To request a disability-related accommodation to this attendance policy, please contact the Disability Resource Center at (520) 621-3268 or [drc-info@email.arizona.edu](mailto:drc-info@email.arizona.edu). If you are experiencing unexpected barriers to your success in your courses, the Dean of Students Office is a central support resource for all students and may be helpful.



The Dean of Students Office is located in the Robert L. Nugent Building, room 100, or call 520-621-7057.

**Academic Integrity:** Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See:

<https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>

"Integrity is expected of every student in all academic work. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. This principle is furthered by the student Code of Conduct and disciplinary procedures established by ABOR Policies 5-308-5-403, all provisions of which apply to all University of Arizona students." From The Code of Academic Integrity.

**Non-discrimination and Anti-harassment:** The University of Arizona is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination. In support of this commitment, the University prohibits discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, based on a protected classification, including race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information. The University encourages anyone who believes he or she has been the subject of discrimination to report the matter immediately as described in the section, "Reporting Discrimination, Harassment, or Retaliation" found at the link provided below. All members of the University community are responsible for participating in creating a campus environment free from all forms of prohibited discrimination and for cooperating with University officials who investigate allegations of policy violations.

<https://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

**Preferred pronouns and name:** Students may designate pronouns they use to identify themselves. Students are able to update and edit their pronouns in UAccess. More information on updating your preferred name and pronouns is available on the Office of the Registrar site at

<https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/>. University of Arizona students may also choose to identify themselves within the University community using a preferred first name that differs from their official/legal name. A student's preferred name will appear instead of the person's official/legal first name in select University-related systems and documents, provided that the name is not being used for the purpose of misrepresentation. Students are able to update their preferred names in UAccess.